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Quarterly Population Highlights

A release from the Province of British Columbia's central statistical agency

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B.C. HIGHLIGHTS:

The population of B.C. was estimated at 4,659,272 as of January 1, 2015, growing by 1,325 persons in the fourth quarter of 2014 (an increase of 0.03% from October 1, 2014). Combined net migration from all sources (interprovincial and international) produced a net loss of 589 during the last three months of 2014. Net interprovincial in-migration totalled 2,556 persons in the fourth quarter. The last quarter of 2014 saw a net loss due to net international migration (–3,145), in large part due to a decline in the number of non-permanent residents (–6,953). Finally, a natural increase (births minus deaths) of 1,914 positively affected population growth in the fourth quarter.

B.C. population October 1, 2014		**4,657,947**
Interprovincial migration		+ 2,556
Add interprovincial arrivals	+ 9,752	
Minus interprovincial exits	– 7,196	
International migration		– 3,145
Add immigrants	+ 7,697	
Minus total net emigrants	– 3,889	
Net change in non-permanent residents	– 6,953	
Natural change		+ 1,914
Add births	+ 10,854	
Minus deaths	– 8,940	
Net Change		+ 1,325
B.C. population January 1, 2015		**4,659,272**

THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS:

B.C.'s total population increase over the twelve months ending December 31, 2014 was 54,552 persons (+1.2%), largely due to international migration. On an annual basis, immigrants (+35,160) and non-permanent residents (+11,949) were the main providers of population growth for the province. Interprovincial migration accounted for a net gain of 10,042 persons from January 1, 2014 to January 1, 2015. Consequently, four-fifths (+43,932) of population growth since January 1, 2014 could be attributed to net migration from all sources. The remainder was due to the natural increase (+10,620).

NATIONAL OVERVIEW:

The population of Canada grew by 26,873 persons (+0.08%) to 35,702,707 during the fourth quarter of 2014. Leading the growth at the provincial and territorial level were Alberta (+0.34%) followed by Manitoba (+0.27%) and Saskatchewan (+0.24%). Quebec, Nunavut, British Columbia and Ontario saw smaller population increases while the remainder of the provinces and territories reported small declines.

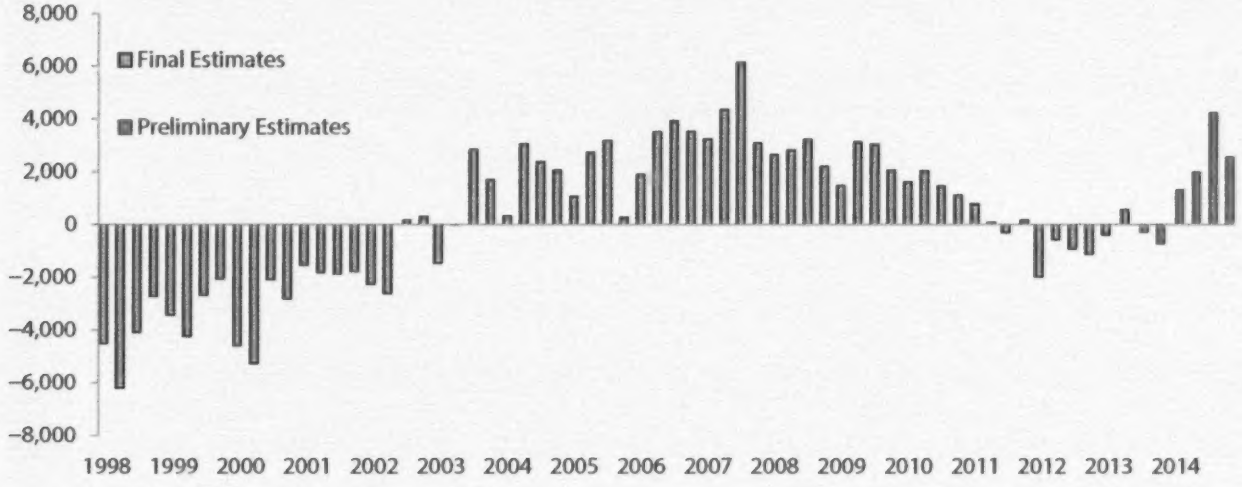
FOURTH QUARTER INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION:

Net international in-migration to British Columbia (*immigrants plus the net change in non-permanent residents plus returning emigrants less emigrants and persons temporarily abroad*) registered a net loss in the fourth quarter, totalling -3,145. This is a noticeable reversal from the same quarter of 2013 when a net gain of 266 was reported. The total number of immigrants arriving in B.C. from October 1 to December 31 (+7,697) was down compared to the same three months in 2013 (+9,045) and the net loss in non-permanent residents (-6,953) was markedly higher than in the fourth quarter of 2013 (-4,890). The combination of these two components drove the decline in international in-migration. As for persons leaving B.C. for international destinations, an estimated 3,381 left on a permanent basis and 1,385 were away temporarily in the fourth quarter of 2014, unchanged from the same period in 2013.

FOURTH QUARTER INTERPROVINCIAL MIGRATION:

British Columbia was one of three provinces and territories that reported a net gain in population from other Canadian jurisdictions in the fourth quarter of 2014. In B.C. an inflow of 9,752 persons was offset by an outflow of 7,196 for a net population gain of 2,556. British Columbia's net exchange with Alberta was positive, with an estimated 548 more persons leaving Alberta for B.C. than those going to Alberta from British Columbia. In addition, B.C. reported positive net in-migration from Ontario (+684), Manitoba (+605), Saskatchewan (+237), Quebec (+209) and Yukon (+149). Alberta was the biggest net recipient in the fourth quarter of 2014 with a net gain of 4,178 interprovincial migrants, followed by B.C. with a net gain of 2,556. Saskatchewan was the only other jurisdiction to post a net gain (+140).

B.C. NET INTERPROVINCIAL MIGRATION BY QUARTER, Q1 1998 TO Q4 2014



[Source: Statistics Canada. Table 051-0017 Interprovincial migrants, Canada, provinces and territories, CANSIM. Last updated March 18, 2015.]

Click here for more information about British Columbia demography.

DID YOU KNOW?

According to the 2011 Census, there were a total of 1,764,637 households (occupied private dwellings) in British Columbia. Average household size in B.C. has been shrinking gradually over the past number of decades. The average number of persons living in a private household was 2.45 in 2011, compared to 2.7 persons in 1981. Note that households are different from families, in that people living in the same household do not have to be related to one another. In 2011, there were 1,238,155 families living in private households. Information about households is useful for conducting market research and formulating government policies.

BC Stats produces household projections annually by B.C. sub-provincial areas. For more information on these projections see http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/StatisticsBySubject/Demography/Households.aspx.

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Table 1: Provincial migration flow (Oct - Dec, 2014)

Origin \ Destination	Nfld	PEI	NS	NB	Que	Ont	Man	Sask	Alta	BC	Yukon	NWT	Nvt
Nfld	—	53	172	38	117	305	86	17	462	128	—	—	36
PEI	41	—	122	20	—	72	—	—	183	12	—	—	—
NS	84	—	—	341	42	868	20	40	811	260	58	—	7
NB	24	14	450	—	247	603	38	42	545	59	—	14	—
Que	26	—	110	210	—	3,206	106	79	1,285	631	7	—	19
Ont	413	89	615	568	2,398	—	497	756	5,599	2,659	18	48	12
Man	35	13	33	22	131	642	—	409	638	782	21	20	—
Sask	—	4	102	14	—	616	262	—	1,574	797	—	24	—
Alta	376	87	352	275	660	2,831	510	1,521	—	4,189	71	88	17
BC	25	28	200	88	422	1,975	177	560	3,641	—	32	48	—
Yukon	—	—	—	—	12	9	9	26	148	181	—	—	—
NWT	—	—	58	—	—	70	—	83	269	54	—	—	—
Nvt	11	16	—	41	12	59	—	—	—	—	19	—	—
Inflow	1,035	304	2,214	1,617	4,041	11,256	1,705	3,533	15,155	9,752	226	242	91
Outflow	1,414	450	2,531	2,036	5,679	13,672	2,746	3,393	10,977	7,196	385	534	158
Net interprovincial	- 379	- 146	- 317	- 419	- 1,638	- 2,416	- 1,041	140	4,178	2,556	- 159	- 292	- 67
Net international										- 3,145			
Total net										- 589			

Prepared by: Demographic Analysis, BC Stats
Date: March 2015

Data source: Statistics Canada

Table 6: Quarterly components of population change in British Columbia

Year	Quarter	Interprovincial			International						Total net migration	Births	Deaths	Natural increase	Total increase	Population at end of quarter	Annual growth rate (%)
		In	Out	Net	Immigrants	Emigrants	Net NPR	Temporary abroad	Returning emigrants	Net							
1995	1	12,991	8,654	4,337	10,063	882	979	642	554	10,072	14,409	11,226	6,961	4,265	18,674	3,751,377	2.9
1995	2	16,933	10,659	6,274	11,975	1,200	1,021	730	738	11,794	18,068	12,218	6,435	5,783	23,851	3,777,390	2.8
1995	3	21,889	14,530	7,359	12,345	2,427	2,387	1,061	1,128	12,372	19,731	12,386	6,231	6,155	25,886	3,805,461	2.5
1995	4	15,292	9,848	5,444	10,220	1,325	739	761	533	9,406	14,850	10,990	6,748	4,242	19,092	3,826,739	2.6
	Total	67,105	43,691	23,414	44,603	5,834	5,116	3,194	2,953	43,644	67,058	46,820	26,375	20,445	87,503		
1996	1	12,402	8,785	3,617	12,197	856	1,777	632	503	12,989	16,606	11,550	7,210	4,340	20,946	3,849,847	2.6
1996	2	17,376	11,771	5,605	12,966	1,207	567	728	987	12,585	18,190	11,927	6,783	5,144	23,334	3,874,317	2.6
1996	3	20,735	14,894	5,841	14,724	2,610	1,787	1,849	1,349	13,401	19,242	11,783	6,305	5,478	24,720	3,899,256	2.5
1996	4	12,215	9,480	2,735	12,138	1,603	– 941	1,429	677	8,642	11,377	10,878	7,240	3,638	15,015	3,914,490	2.3
	Total	62,728	44,930	17,798	52,025	6,276	3,190	4,638	3,316	47,617	65,415	46,138	27,538	18,600	84,015		
1997	1	11,521	11,031	490	13,329	1,769	1,138	1,289	470	12,379	12,869	10,898	7,415	3,483	16,352	3,931,056	2.1
1997	2	14,961	14,147	814	13,044	1,775	832	1,501	780	11,380	12,194	11,755	6,639	5,116	17,310	3,948,583	1.9
1997	3	18,855	17,771	1,084	12,782	3,193	1,055	1,941	1,080	9,783	10,867	11,421	6,413	5,008	15,875	3,964,677	1.7
1997	4	8,692	9,100	– 408	8,693	1,882	– 1,108	1,455	528	4,776	4,368	10,503	6,945	3,558	7,926	3,972,821	1.5
	Total	54,029	52,049	1,980	47,848	8,119	1,917	6,186	2,858	38,318	40,298	44,577	27,417	17,165	57,463		
1998	1	10,657	15,162	– 4,505	9,149	1,355	– 503	1,260	515	6,546	2,041	10,608	7,773	2,835	4,876	3,977,912	1.2
1998	2	13,320	19,520	– 6,200	9,832	1,760	– 728	1,411	934	6,877	677	11,055	6,747	4,308	4,985	3,983,113	0.9
1998	3	13,872	17,961	– 4,089	9,615	3,486	1,421	2,011	1,117	6,656	2,567	11,094	6,542	4,552	7,119	3,990,451	0.7
1998	4	8,639	11,366	– 2,727	7,394	1,816	– 311	1,411	445	4,301	1,574	10,315	6,916	3,399	4,973	3,995,643	0.6
	Total	46,488	64,009	– 17,521	35,990	8,417	– 111	6,093	3,011	24,380	6,859	43,072	27,978	15,094	21,953		
1999	1	8,515	11,951	– 3,436	8,180	1,296	1,032	1,224	555	7,247	3,811	10,243	7,478	2,765	6,576	4,002,433	0.6
1999	2	12,274	16,506	– 4,232	9,085	1,850	2,043	1,423	996	8,851	4,619	10,935	6,829	4,106	8,725	4,011,375	0.7
1999	3	14,999	17,681	– 2,682	10,175	3,709	2,944	1,946	971	8,435	5,753	10,782	6,528	4,254	10,007	4,021,600	0.9
1999	4	7,781	9,844	– 2,063	8,666	2,133	– 1,431	1,441	450	4,111	2,048	9,979	7,182	2,797	4,845	4,026,664	0.8
	Total	43,569	55,982	– 12,413	36,106	8,988	4,588	6,034	2,972	28,644	16,231	41,939	28,017	13,922	30,153		
2000	1	9,272	13,871	– 4,599	8,610	1,546	1,950	1,253	396	8,157	3,558	10,162	7,282	2,880	6,438	4,033,319	0.8
2000	2	11,413	16,679	– 5,266	9,495	2,092	260	1,428	732	6,967	1,701	10,682	6,688	3,994	5,695	4,039,230	0.7
2000	3	15,001	17,096	– 2,095	10,316	3,517	2,320	2,002	956	8,073	5,978	10,378	6,508	3,870	9,848	4,049,297	0.7
2000	4	8,323	11,146	– 2,823	8,992	1,939	75	1,444	385	6,069	3,246	9,450	6,983	2,467	5,713	4,055,229	0.7
	Total	44,009	58,792	– 14,783	37,413	9,094	4,605	6,127	2,469	29,266	14,483	40,672	27,461	13,211	27,694		
2001	1	8,597	10,134	– 1,537	9,428	1,375	2,402	1,244	385	9,596	8,059	9,941	7,311	2,630	10,689	4,066,132	0.9
2001	2	11,417	13,248	– 1,831	10,907	1,748	2,113	1,376	742	10,538	8,707	10,598	7,013	3,585	12,292	4,076,881	0.9
2001	3	16,029	17,902	– 1,873	10,529	5,031	4,922	1,512	1,421	10,329	8,456	10,444	6,794	3,650	12,106	4,085,760	0.9
2001	4	8,365	10,152	– 1,787	7,770	3,261	239	1,057	699	4,340	2,553	9,592	7,244	2,348	4,901	4,087,435	0.8
	Total	44,408	51,436	– 7,028	38,484	11,415	9,676	5,189	3,247	34,803	27,775	40,575	28,362	12,213	39,988		
2002	1	9,244	11,516	– 2,272	9,573	1,530	2,703	1,006	617	10,357	8,085	9,805	7,672	1,933	10,018	4,094,296	0.7
2002	2	13,521	16,145	– 2,624	10,202	1,943	297	1,364	1,186	8,378	5,754	10,291	6,989	3,302	9,056	4,100,161	0.6
2002	3	16,089	15,936	153	7,992	4,615	3,746	1,497	1,747	7,373	7,526	10,470	6,854	3,616	11,142	4,108,076	0.5
2002	4	8,925	8,627	298	6,290	3,110	– 409	1,022	805	2,554	2,852	9,699	7,369	2,330	5,182	4,110,032	0.6
	Total	47,779	52,224	– 4,445	34,057	11,198	6,337	4,889	4,355	28,662	24,217	40,265	28,884	11,181	35,398		
2003	1	8,685	10,145	– 1,460	7,354	2,407	1,582	1,086	931	6,974	5,514	9,813	7,546	2,267	7,781	4,114,657	0.5
2003	2	14,379	14,407	– 28	9,688	2,315	1,407	1,337	1,430	8,873	8,845	10,552	6,925	3,627	12,472	4,123,937	0.6
2003	3	15,923	13,093	2,830	9,459	4,099	2,374	1,558	1,828	7,004	9,834	10,395	6,972	3,423	13,257	4,133,968	0.6
2003	4	9,295	7,612	1,683	8,132	3,433	657	1,028	797	5,125	6,808	9,737	7,877	1,860	8,668	4,139,409	0.7
	Total	48,282	45,257	3,025	35,233	12,254	5,020	5,009	4,986	27,976	31,001	40,497	29,320	11,177	42,178		
2004	1	9,984	9,674	310	8,966	2,746	1,098	1,010	762	7,070	7,380	9,740	7,840	1,900	9,280	4,145,498	0.7
2004	2	15,204	12,162	3,042	10,155	3,204	– 509	1,345	1,412	6,509	9,551	10,334	7,174	3,160	12,711	4,155,017	0.8
2004	3	15,109	12,731	2,378	10,362	3,909	2,830	1,544	2,148	9,887	12,265	10,394	7,223	3,171	15,436	4,167,227	0.9
2004	4	10,760	8,705	2,055	7,543	2,969	754	1,039	979	5,268	7,323	10,022	7,687	2,335	9,658	4,173,658	0.8
	Total	51,057	43,272	7,785	37,026	12,828	4,173	4,938	5,301	28,734	36,519	40,490	29,924	10,566	47,085		

Table 6: Quarterly components of population change in British Columbia

		Interprovincial			International										Population at end of quarter	Annual growth rate (%)
Year	Quarter	In	Out	Net	Immigrants	Emigrants	Net NPR	Temporary abroad	Returning emigrants	Net	Total net migration	Births	Deaths	Natural increase	Total increase	
2005	1	11,239	10,184	1,055	10,505	2,398	1,537	1,017	928	9,555	10,610	9,761	8,118	1,643	12,253	4,182,755	0.9
2005	2	17,172	14,446	2,726	12,167	2,758	582	1,338	1,671	10,324	13,050	10,455	7,305	3,150	16,200	4,195,764	1.0
2005	3	16,631	13,459	3,172	12,450	3,454	2,969	1,576	2,574	12,963	16,135	10,745	7,111	3,634	19,769	4,212,306	1.1
2005	4	8,948	8,689	259	9,653	2,899	– 483	1,006	1,045	6,310	6,569	9,866	7,701	2,165	8,734	4,217,814	1.1
	Total	53,990	46,778	7,212	44,775	11,509	4,605	4,937	6,218	39,152	46,364	40,827	30,235	10,592	56,956		
2006	1	12,294	10,411	1,883	10,270	2,401	1,734	1,025	1,051	9,669	11,552	9,858	8,054	1,804	13,356	4,228,013	1.1
2006	2	15,223	11,737	3,486	11,473	2,769	639	1,334	1,922	9,931	13,417	10,723	7,445	3,278	16,695	4,241,691	1.1
2006	3	19,163	15,244	3,919	11,021	3,648	3,552	2,094	2,965	11,796	15,715	10,951	7,263	3,688	19,403	4,258,216	1.1
2006	4	12,150	8,639	3,511	9,321	3,102	– 1,913	1,112	847	4,041	7,552	10,197	7,926	2,271	9,823	4,265,161	1.1
	Total	58,830	46,031	12,799	42,085	11,920	4,012	5,565	6,825	35,437	48,236	41,729	30,688	11,041	59,277		
2007	1	11,705	8,467	3,238	7,972	2,734	4,274	1,176	876	9,262	12,500	10,108	8,177	1,931	14,431	4,276,777	1.2
2007	2	15,164	10,827	4,337	9,497	2,836	2,425	1,430	1,533	9,189	13,526	11,123	7,591	3,532	17,058	4,290,988	1.2
2007	3	19,576	13,449	6,127	12,208	3,525	4,751	1,802	2,165	13,797	19,924	11,577	7,563	4,014	23,938	4,312,048	1.3
2007	4	10,587	7,513	3,074	9,293	2,895	– 1,467	1,204	969	4,696	7,770	10,841	7,977	2,864	10,634	4,319,805	1.3
	Total	57,032	40,256	16,776	38,970	11,990	9,983	5,562	5,543	36,944	53,720	43,649	31,308	12,341	66,061		
2008	1	11,851	9,224	2,627	10,127	2,353	2,919	1,197	955	10,451	13,078	10,486	8,574	1,912	14,990	4,331,948	1.3
2008	2	15,382	12,567	2,815	11,582	2,517	4,926	1,558	1,678	14,121	16,936	11,238	7,863	3,375	20,311	4,349,412	1.4
2008	3	16,951	13,739	3,212	12,714	3,293	7,670	1,799	2,038	17,330	20,542	11,738	7,565	4,173	24,715	4,371,250	1.4
2008	4	9,479	7,284	2,195	9,569	2,673	2,305	1,194	896	8,963	11,098	10,814	8,095	2,719	13,817	4,382,189	1.4
	Total	53,663	42,814	10,849	44,002	10,836	17,820	5,748	5,567	50,805	61,654	44,276	32,097	12,179	73,833		
2009	1	11,143	9,672	1,471	9,244	2,275	5,643	1,224	952	12,340	13,811	10,710	8,256	2,454	16,265	4,396,638	1.5
2009	2	13,488	10,371	3,117	10,848	2,094	2,093	1,547	1,562	10,882	13,979	11,428	7,520	3,908	17,887	4,410,679	1.4
2009	3	14,579	11,543	3,036	12,116	2,989	7,119	1,754	2,109	16,601	19,637	11,937	7,674	4,263	23,900	4,431,701	1.4
2009	4	8,899	6,851	2,048	9,231	2,647	1,477	1,217	1,014	7,858	9,906	10,918	7,990	2,928	12,834	4,441,657	1.4
	Total	48,109	38,437	9,672	41,439	10,005	16,332	5,742	5,637	47,661	57,333	44,993	31,440	13,553	70,886		
2010	1	11,474	9,861	1,613	9,629	2,488	4,202	1,199	977	11,121	12,734	10,568	7,896	2,672	15,406	4,454,248	1.3
2010	2	14,517	12,486	2,031	12,895	2,431	– 1,535	1,592	1,776	9,113	11,144	11,218	7,839	3,379	14,523	4,465,924	1.3
2010	3	14,420	12,957	1,463	13,508	3,615	5,225	1,791	1,916	15,243	16,706	11,386	7,461	3,925	20,631	4,483,677	1.2
2010	4	9,639	8,534	1,105	8,153	2,682	– 7,222	1,198	857	– 2,092	– 987	10,654	8,128	2,526	1,539	4,482,338	0.9
	Total	50,050	43,838	6,212	44,185	11,216	670	5,780	5,526	33,385	39,597	43,826	31,324	12,502	52,099		
2011	1	10,899	10,119	780	7,614	2,499	1,316	1,190	941	6,082	6,862	10,531	8,273	2,258	9,120	4,488,643	0.8
2011	2	12,896	12,823	73	9,671	2,524	1,033	1,584	1,548	8,144	8,217	11,337	7,838	3,499	11,716	4,499,139	0.7
2011	3	15,411	15,721	– 310	9,882	3,789	8,679	1,714	2,034	15,092	14,782	11,779	7,497	4,282	19,064	4,518,203	0.8
2011	4	8,834	8,678	156	7,619	3,297	– 2,272	1,385	877	1,542	1,698	10,482	8,356	2,126	3,824	4,522,027	0.9
	Total	48,040	47,341	699	34,786	12,109	8,756	5,873	5,300	30,860	31,559	44,129	31,964	12,165	43,724		
2012	1	10,024	12,009	– 1,985	8,658	2,830	1,871	1,332	877	7,244	5,259	10,402	8,337	2,065	7,324	4,529,351	0.9
2012	2	14,324	14,896	– 572	10,087	2,596	2,863	1,334	1,581	10,601	10,029	11,111	7,983	3,128	13,157	4,542,508	1.0
2012	3	13,060	13,976	– 916	9,029	3,837	8,997	1,714	2,034	14,509	13,593	11,549	7,635	3,914	17,507	4,560,015	0.9
2012	4	6,695	7,818	– 1,123	8,468	3,342	– 5,627	1,385	877	– 1,009	– 2,132	10,966	8,403	2,563	431	4,560,446	0.8
	Total	44,103	48,699	– 4,596	36,242	12,605	8,104	5,765	5,369	31,345	26,749	44,028	32,358	11,670	38,419		
2013	1	9,077	9,412	– 335	8,105	2,868	2,486	1,332	877	7,268	6,883	10,646	8,646	2,000	8,883	4,569,329	0.9
2013	2	15,048	14,492	556	10,134	2,631	2,082	1,334	1,581	9,832	10,388	10,992	8,084	2,908	13,296	4,582,625	0.9
2013	3	13,008	13,290	– 282	8,928	3,880	11,723	1,714	2,034	17,051	16,809	11,531	7,729	3,802	20,611	4,603,236	0.9
2013	4	8,482	9,203	– 721	9,045	3,381	– 4,890	1,385	877	266	– 455	10,531	8,592	1,939	1,484	4,604,720	1.0
	Total	45,565	46,397	– 832	36,212	12,760	11,401	5,765	5,369	34,457	33,625	43,700	33,051	10,649	44,274		
2014	1	11,740	10,442	1,298	9,561	2,902	2,486	1,331	877	8,691	9,989	10,569	8,652	1,917	11,906	4,616,626	1.0
2014	2	18,570	16,598	1,972	9,917	2,661	2,088	1,334	1,581	9,591	11,563	11,107	7,994	3,113	14,676	4,631,302	1.1
2014	3	14,552	10,336	4,216	7,985	3,880	14,328	1,714	2,034	18,753	22,969	11,664	7,988	3,676	26,645	4,657,947	1.2
2014	4	9,752	7,196	2,556	7,697	3,381	– 6,953	1,385	877	– 3,145	– 589	10,854	8,940	1,914	1,325	4,659,272	1.2
	Total	54,614	44,572	10,042	35,160	12,824	11,949	5,764	5,369	33,890	43,932	44,194	33,574	10,620	54,552		

Prepared by: Demographic Analysis, BC Stats
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Data source: Statistics Canada

Note: Net NPR denotes the net change in Non-Permanent Residents.
Due to revisions on the part of Statistics Canada, the sum of the components may not equal the population change.
"–" indicates no data available. All figures subject to revision.